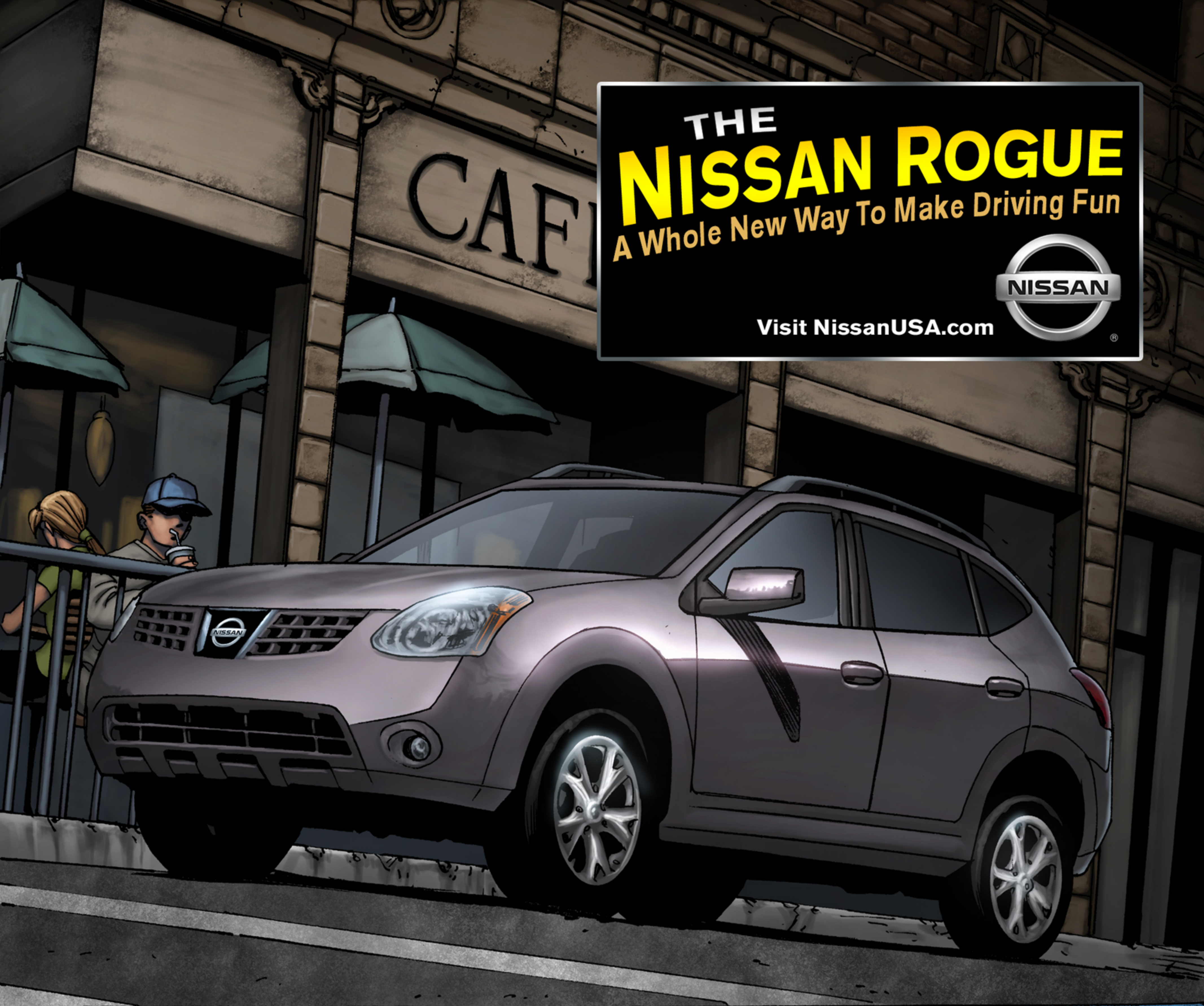


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HEROES

CHAPTER 114

THE CAGED BIRD

Part 2

Daphne's recollection of the past reveals how she first discovered her power; and the moment a mysterious stranger appeared...

WICHITA, KANAS.
OCTOBER, 2006



DAPH, I'M
AMAZED BY WHAT'S
HAPPENED TOO.
BUT IT'S MY JOB TO
PROTECT YOU.

BY
LETTING ME
BE TESTED
ON?

MS.
MILLBROOK,
MY STAFF IS
WELL VERSED
IN THE KINDS
OF MEDICAL
CHALLENGES
THAT--

I DON'T
HAVE MEDICAL
CHALLENGES,
I'M CURED!

FOR NOW.



MISTER
THOMPSON, I'D
LIKE TO TALK TO MY
DAUGHTER ALONE.
WE'LL SEE YOU IN
THE MORNING.

THANKS
FOR YOUR
TIME.



YOU CAN'T MAKE ME GO.
MOM NEVER WOULD
HAVE DONE THIS!

WELL YOUR
MOTHER ISN'T
HERE -- I AM!

I WISH
YOU'D DIED
INSTEAD.

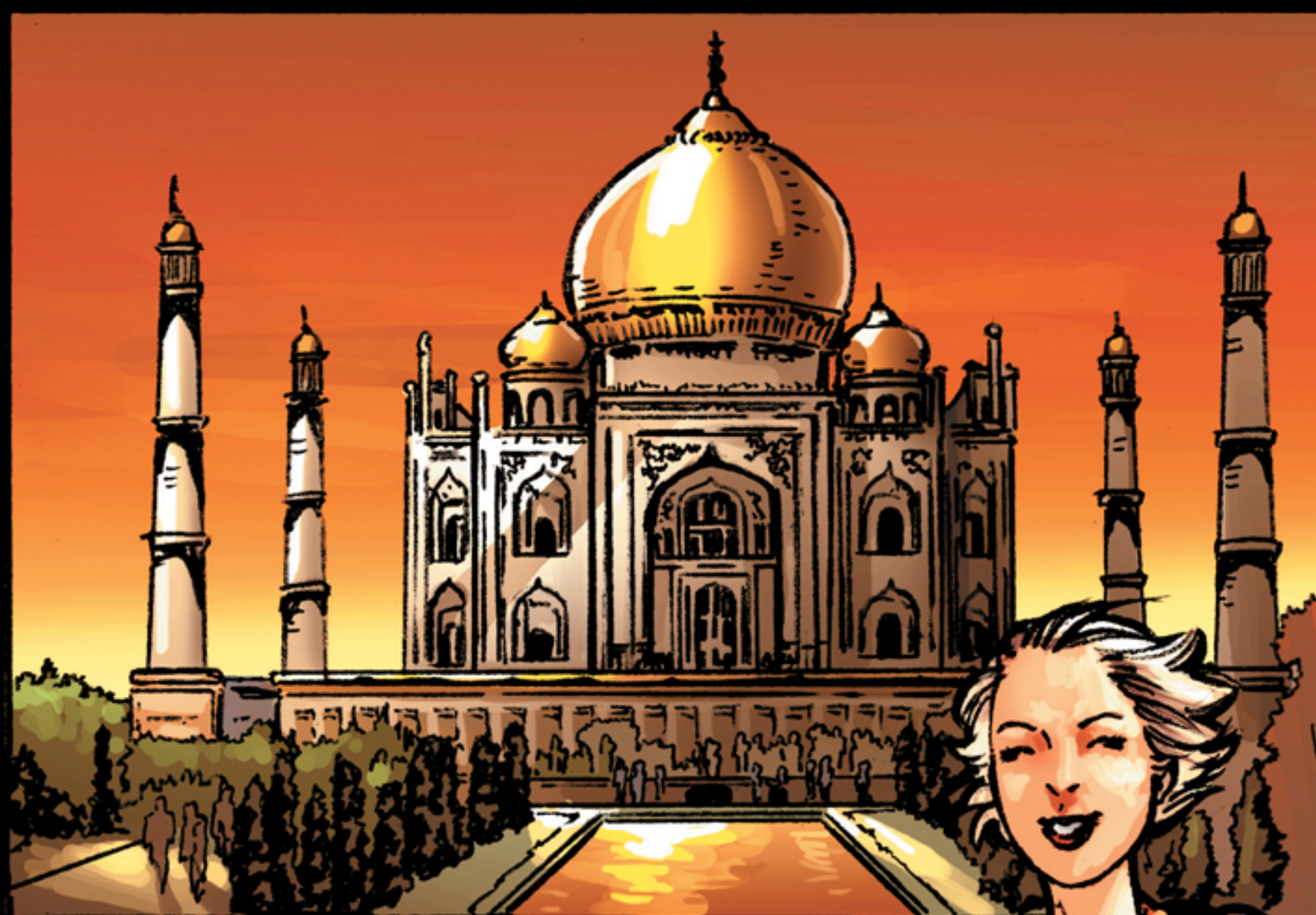


I IMMEDIATELY
WANTED TO
TAKE IT BACK.



BUT INSTEAD, I RAN.
IT'S WHAT I AM NOW.

THE MONTHS AFTER I LEFT KANSAS WERE THE BEST I'VE EVER KNOWN.



THREE MONTHS LATER.
PARIS, FRANCE.

BUT IT WASN'T ALL PHOTO-OPS AND SUNSETS. BECAUSE WHEN I STOPPED MOVING, I REMEMBERED.





DAPHNE,
IS THAT YOU?
COME HOME,
I --

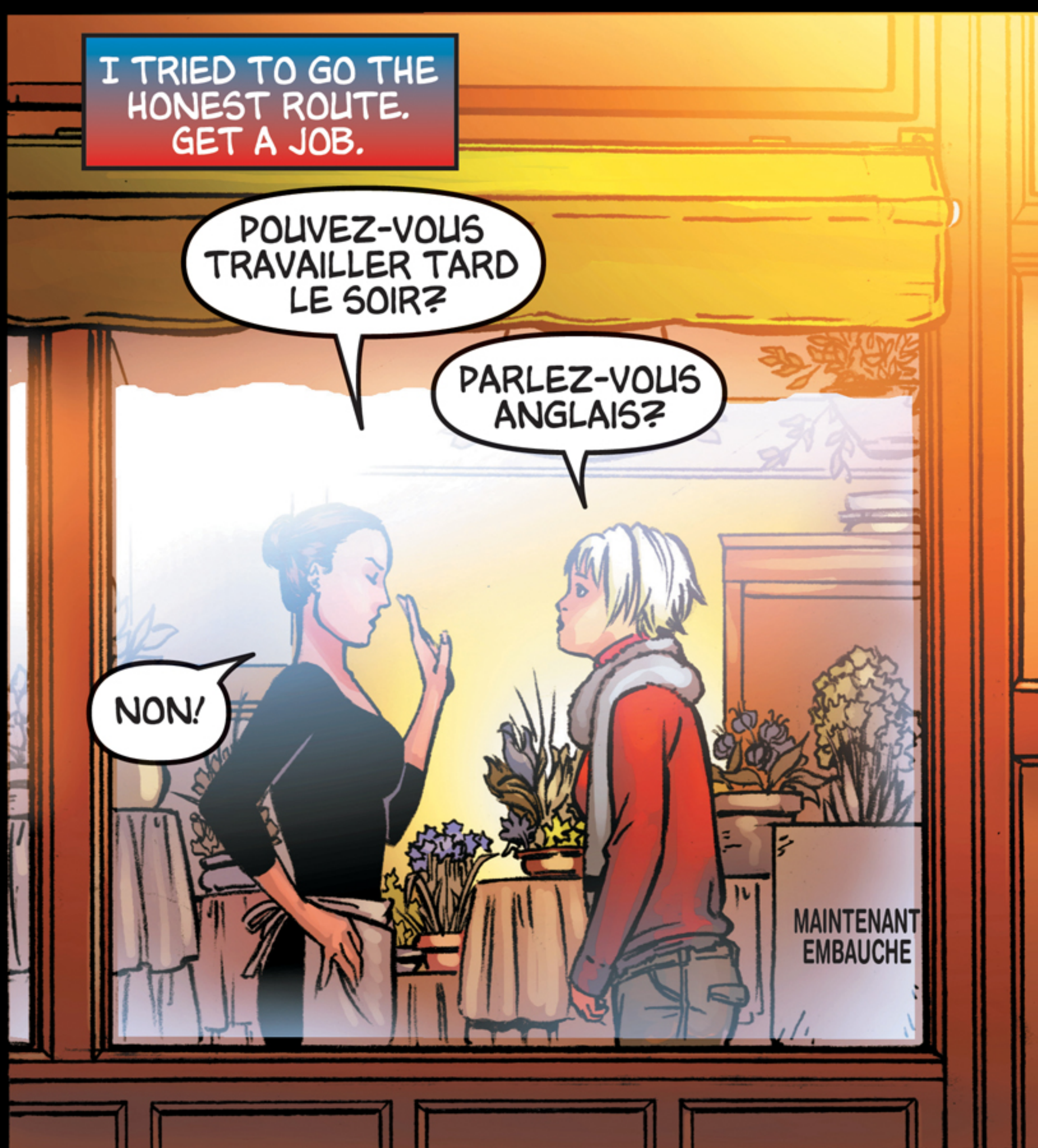
EXCUSEZ-MOI,
LE TÉLÉPHONE EST
UNIQUEMENT POUR
LES CLIENTS!

BUT I WASN'T GOING BACK.
I WAS ON MY OWN.



C'EST
LE MIEN!

ALLEZ
AU DIABLE!



I TRIED TO GO THE
HONEST ROUTE.
GET A JOB.

POUVEZ-VOUS
TRAVAILLER TARD
LE SOIR?

PARLEZ-VOUS
ANGLAIS?

NON!

MAINTENANT
EMBAUCHE



BUT I DIDN'T HAVE TO. IN THE
MARKET THAT DAY I SAW IT.
WHATEVER I WANTED.

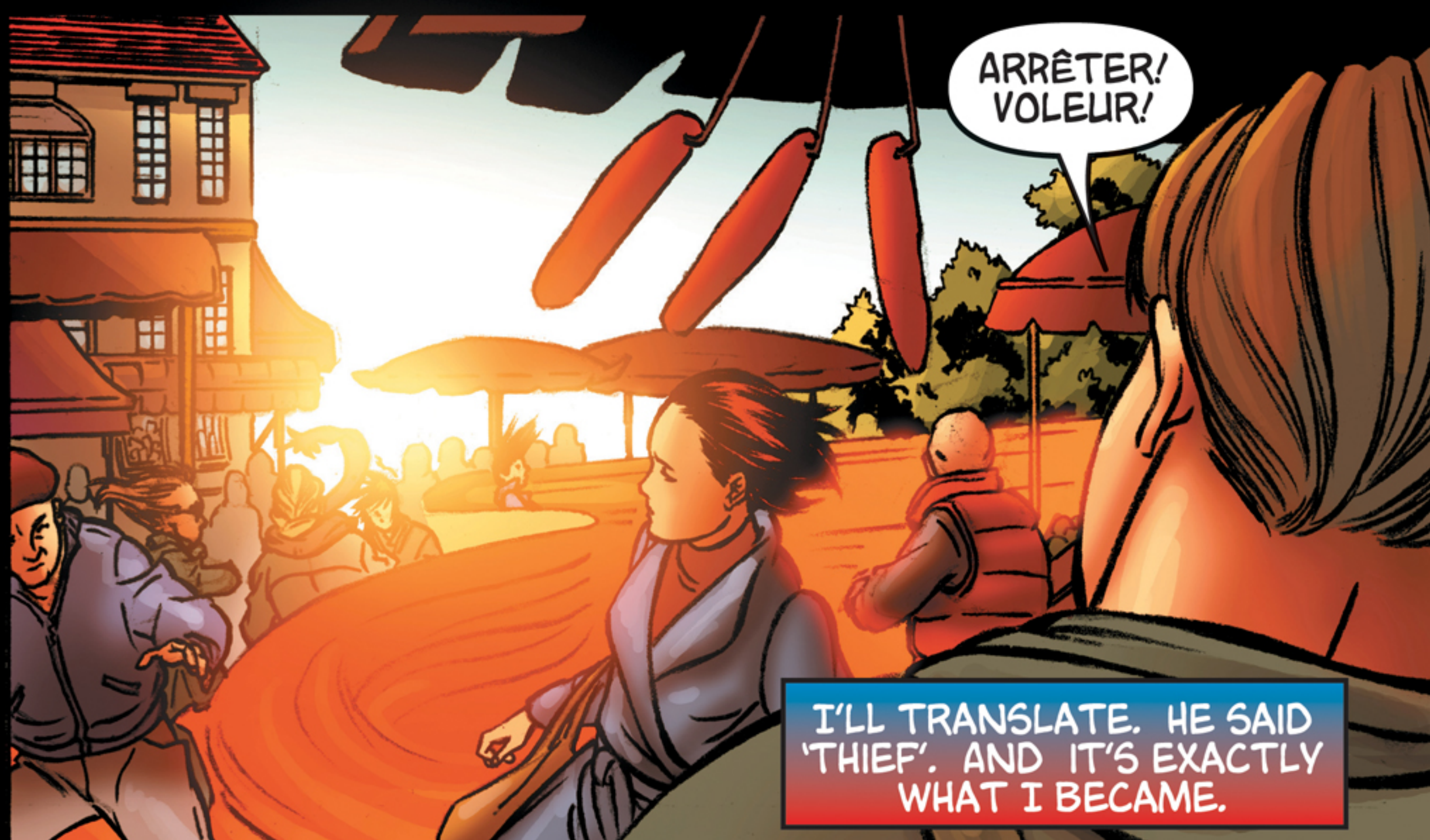
HOT
ROLLS! TROIS
POUR 3€!

J'AVAIS
COMME TROIS
S'IL VOUS
PLAÎT.



THE SCORND
CAGE BIRD.

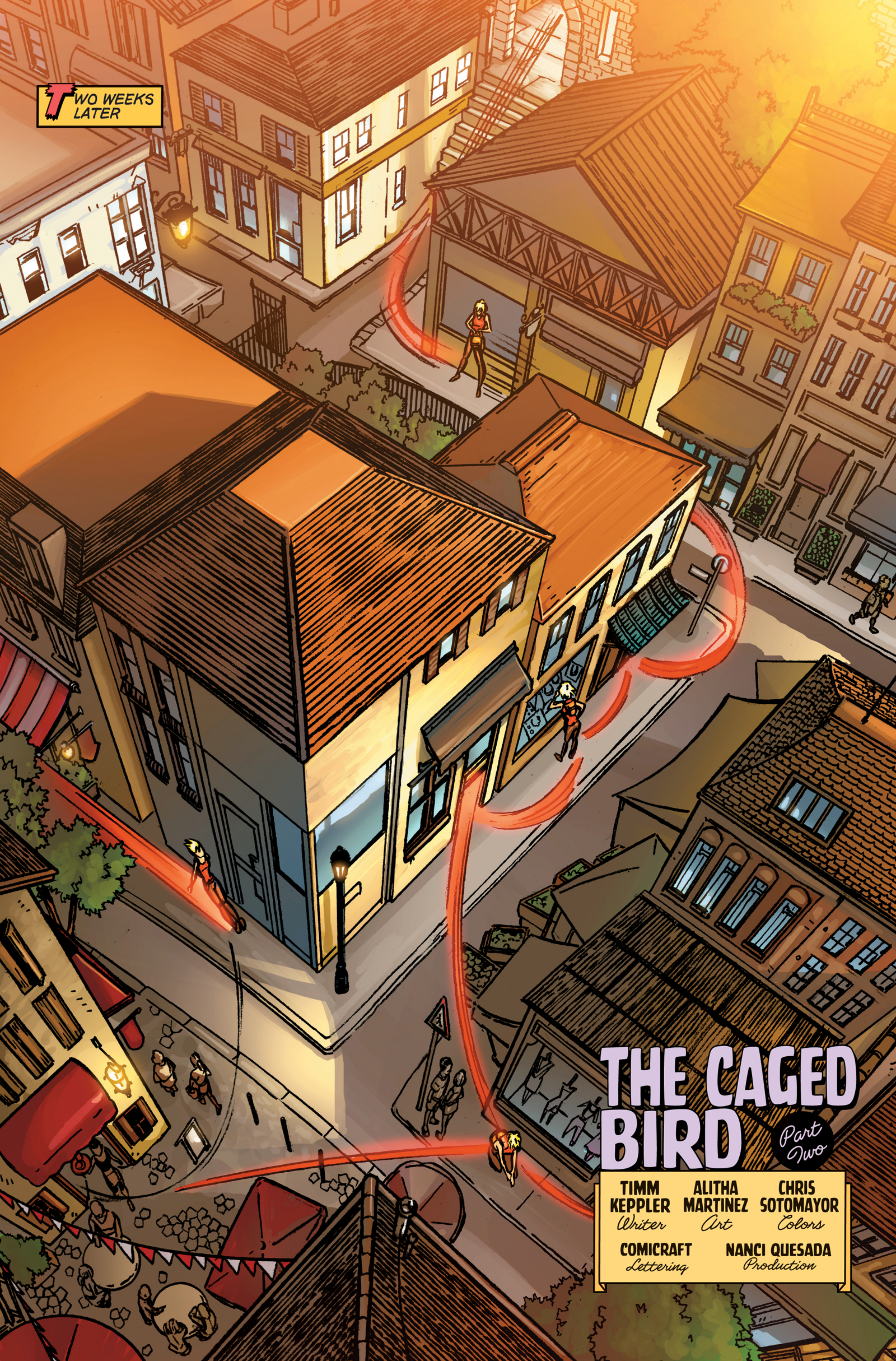
VOUS --
VOUS DEVEZ
PAYER!



ARRÊTER!
VOLEUR!

I'LL TRANSLATE. HE SAID
'THIEF'. AND IT'S EXACTLY
WHAT I BECAME.

TWO WEEKS
LATER



THE CAGED BIRD

Part Two

TIMM KEPPLER <i>Writer</i>	ALITHA MARTINEZ <i>Art</i>	CHRIS SOTOMAYOR <i>Colors</i>
COMICRAFT <i>Lettering</i>	NANCI QUESADA <i>Production</i>	



FIVE,
SIX, SEVEN,
EIGH-

YOU'RE
NOT A
VERY GOOD
THIEF.



SHOVE OFF.
WAIT, YOU SPEAK
ENGLISH?

POOR
AMERICAN
GIRL.

I CAN
TAKE CARE OF
MYSELF

REALLY?
HOW MANY PEOPLE
ARE FOLLOWING
YOU?



ZERO.

WRONG.
THERE ARE TWO.
A MAN AND WOMAN,
BOTH AMERICAN.

WHO
ARE YOU?

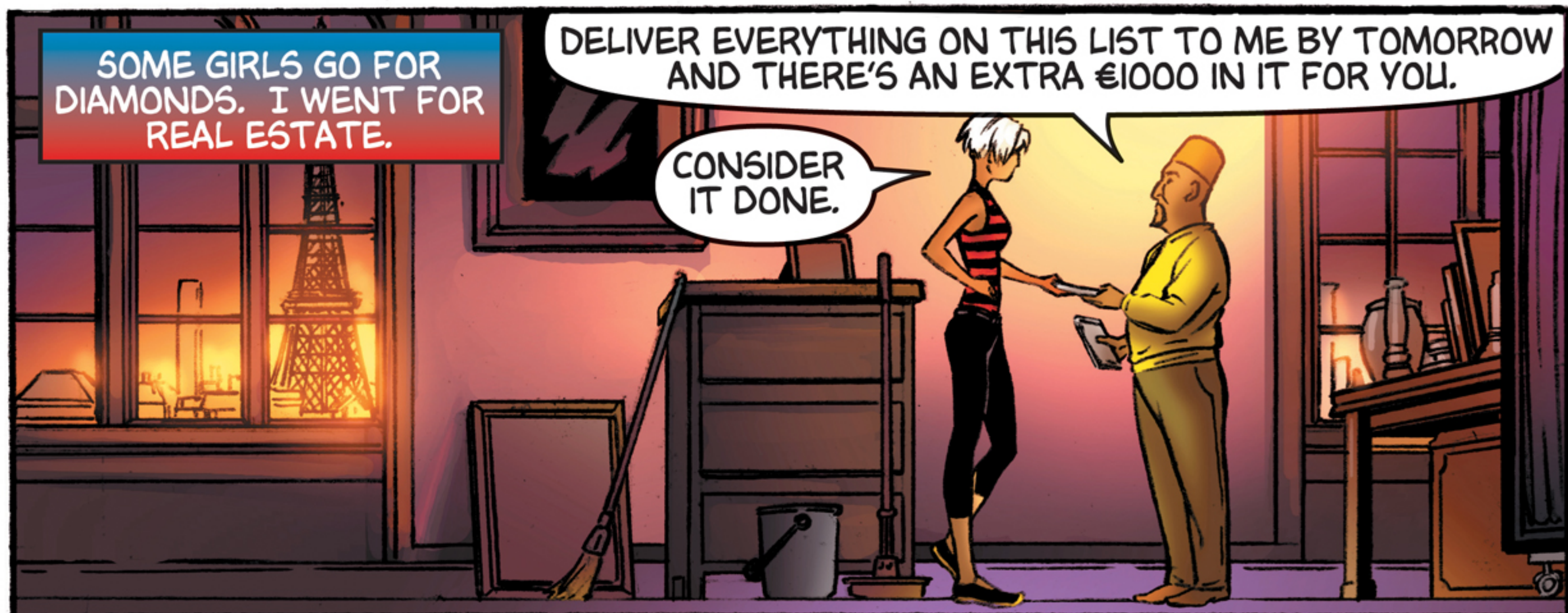
MY NAME
IS SAMIR.



SAMIR MELLOUK. A LOCAL CRIME BOSS
WITH THE NIFTY ABILITY TO SLIP
THROUGH THINGS. INCLUDING THE LAW.

WHY SHOULD I WORK
FOR YOU?

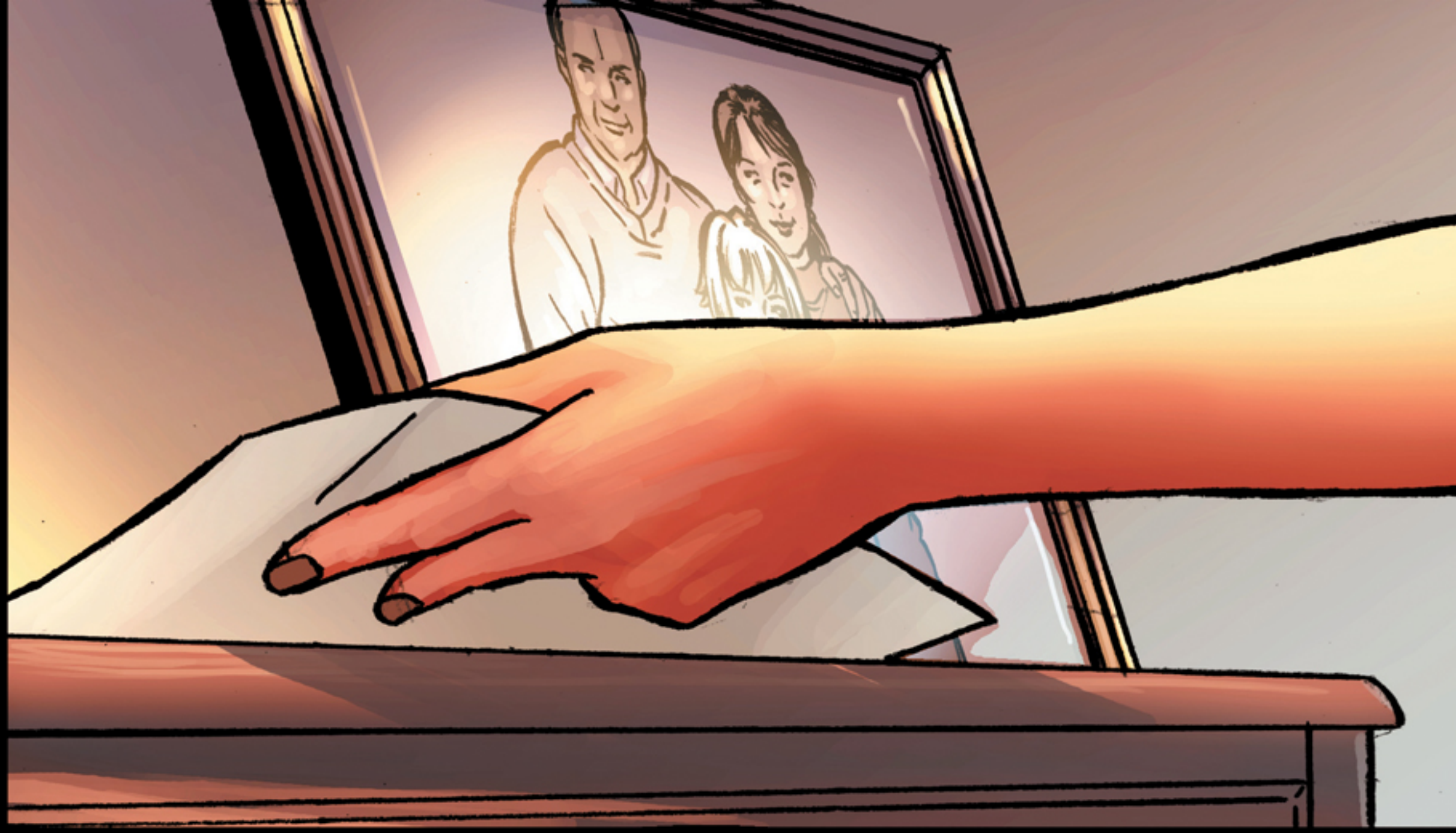
MY
CLIENTS PAY A LOT
OF MONEY AND I CAN
PROTECT YOU. I EVEN
HAVE AN APARTMENT
YOU CAN USE.



SOME GIRLS GO FOR
DIAMONDS. I WENT FOR
REAL ESTATE.

DELIVER EVERYTHING ON THIS LIST TO ME BY TOMORROW
AND THERE'S AN EXTRA €1000 IN IT FOR YOU.

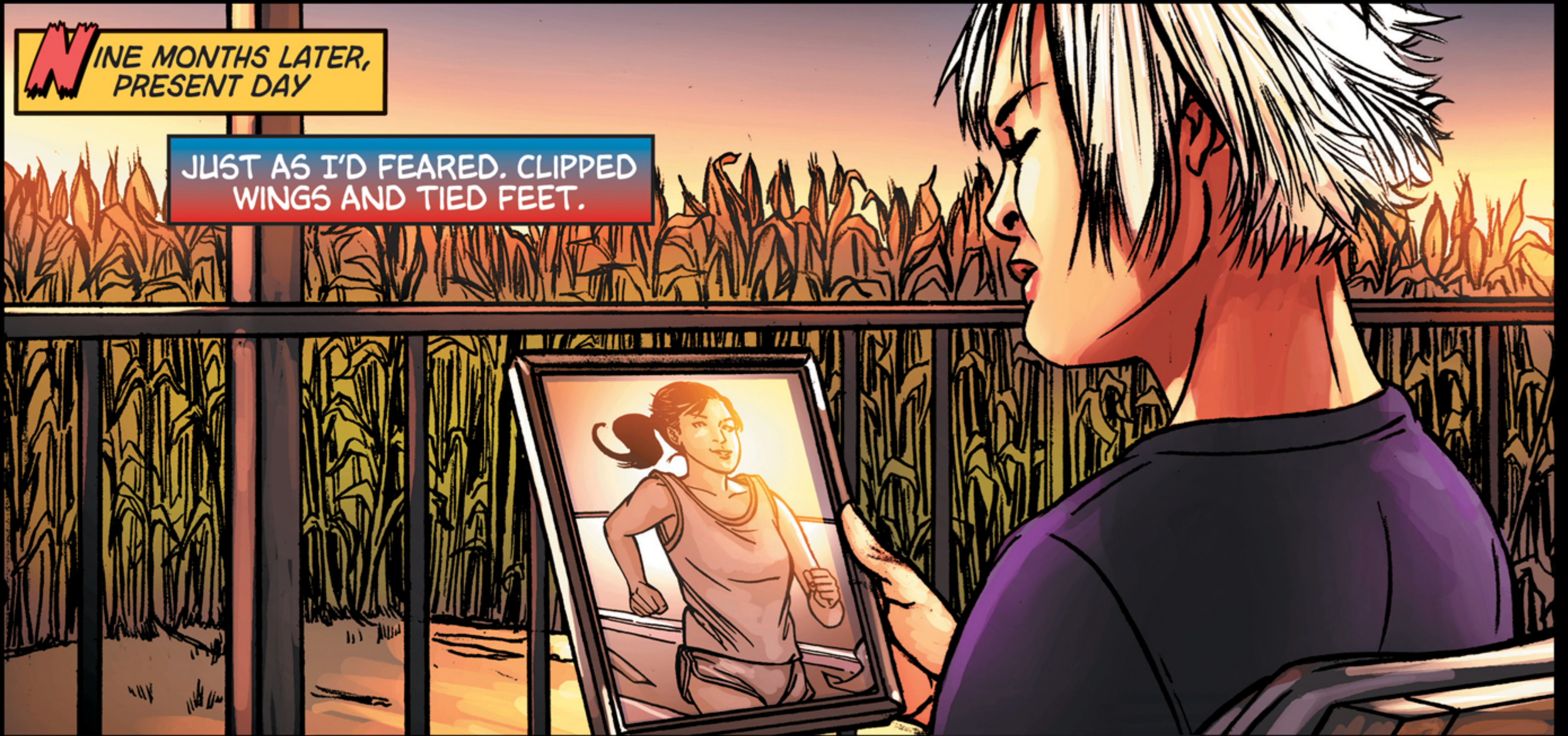
CONSIDER
IT DONE.



BUT IT WOULDN'T LAST.
THE CAGE CAME FOR ME.

NINE MONTHS LATER,
PRESENT DAY

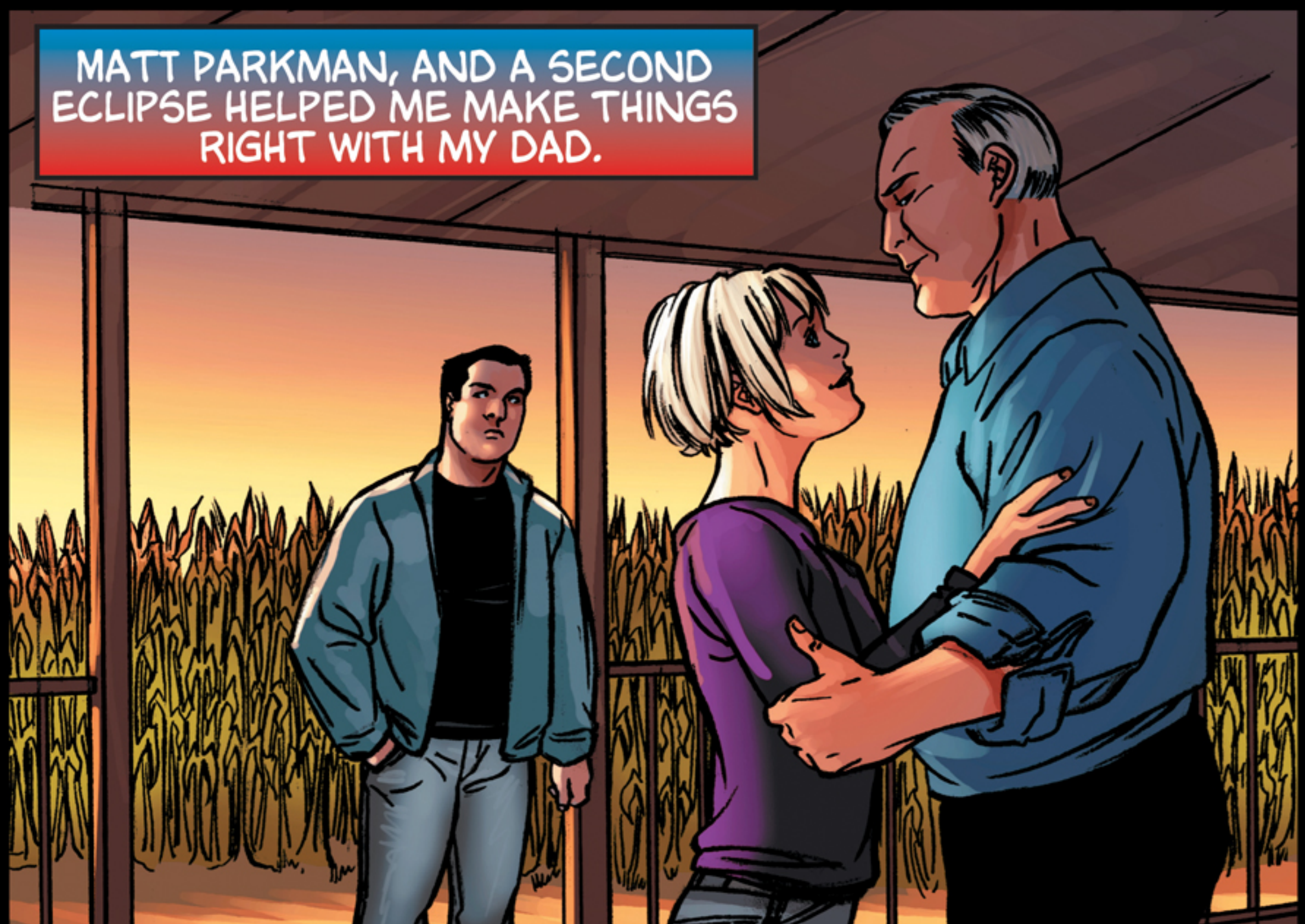
JUST AS I'D FEARED. CLIPPED
WINGS AND TIED FEET.



ONLY THIS TIME, I DID
THINGS DIFFERENTLY.



MATT PARKMAN, AND A SECOND
ECLIPSE HELPED ME MAKE THINGS
RIGHT WITH MY DAD.



HE ASKED ME NOT TO LEAVE. BUT WHEN THE
CAGE DOOR OPENS, THE BIRD INSIDE MUST FLY.



FREEDOM IS ALL
IT EVER WANTED.



**THE
END**